



18 December 1969

Mr. Arnold Gingrich, Publisher  
ESQUIRE  
488 Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10022

Dear Mr. Gingrich:

I apologize to you for the length of time it has taken me to reply to your letter inviting me to be guest of honor at the ESQUIRE Round Table.

Much as I would like to do this, I feel that I must decline. There is nothing I would like better than to join the distinguished list of guests you have already had, but I am constrained from attending functions of this kind and feel that I must adhere to this even with an invitation as attractive as that of yours.

Thank you very much for thinking of me.

Sincerely yours,

(SIGNED) Richard Helms

Richard Helms

PERSONAL